



# Community Peace and Safety Promotion Interventions

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- **Community Organisation: Some Relevant Examples**
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# Introduction and Rationale: South Africa

- **SA: injury and violence is a pervasive feature of daily life**
  - **Key focus for community development programmes and interventions**
  - **BUT focus on injury and violence reinforces negative implications and consequences and highlights challenges and obstacles**
  - **A focus on PEACE and SAFETY promotion emphasises positive means of intervention**
- **Peace: the absence of violence (Galtung, 1969)**
- **Development as freedom (Sen, 1999)**
- **Community development fosters economical, social and political PEACE**
  - **Barnett (2008): synthesis of development and peace is essential however peace literature ignores development theory and vice versa**
  - **‘No peace without development’ (O’Brien, 2005)**
  - **Synthesis: Peace as freedom: resonates with SA:**
    - **History of oppression**
    - **SA lingo, culture and politics invested in democratic dialogue**
    - **Public consciousness and ethos informed by freedom ideology**
    - **Offers useful framework for guiding research on crime and violence**

# Introduction and Rationale: South Africa

- **Safety: a fundamental need and right (Welander, Svanström & Ekman, 2004)**
  - **Resonates with SA democratic dialogue, ethos and culture**
- **Safety and peace promotion are valuable concepts in SA if they:**
  - **Are built upon lessons from successful countries**
  - **Are community-specific (given SA diversity)**
  - **Are understood as public health solutions**
  - **Are used to inform policy, practice and academia (consistency)**
  - **Are focused on existing resources**
  - **Belong to and are practiced by the given community (encourage participation)**
  - **Evaluated and monitored and constantly reviewed and revised**
  - **Reflexive and critical**

# Introduction and Rationale: Ukuphepha

- **This literature review aims to:**
  - **Expose and evaluate the most recent and available peace and safety promotion interventions in terms of their relevance and appropriateness to South African communities broadly and to the Ukuphepha Project more specifically**
  - **Make recommendations to the Ukuphepha Project with regards to what interventions should be implemented into South African communities**
  - **Make recommendations to the Ukuphepha Project in terms of ways that these interventions can be adapted to resonate within the South African context**
- **In doing so this review fulfils two Ukuphepha Project Aims:**
  - 1) **To initiate, implement, evaluate & maintain safety promotion demonstration programmes locally**
  - 2) **To facilitate & convene African-centred injury prevention & safety promotion group of scholars to generate critical African-centred knowledge & knowledge systems**

# Macro versus Micro Interventions: Community Organisation, Community Development, or Both?

- **Welander, Svanström & Ekman (2004):**
  - **Community Development: micro-level social transformative processes**
    - **Face-to-face action**
    - **Community participation**
    - **Means towards behavioral, environmental or skill change and development**
    - **Focus: health, poverty and education**
    - **Run by NGOs, social science institutions and often the community members themselves**
    - **Top-down and bottom-up approaches**

# Macro versus Micro Interventions: Community Organisation, Community Development, or Both?

- **Community Organisation: macro-level city-wide and agency-based practice**
  - Involves groups, agencies and the state in the economic and social development of a given community
  - Focus: often infrastructural demands
  - State-controlled programmes
  - Development by way of broader socio-political structures and policies
  - Top-down approach

# Macro versus Micro Interventions: Community Organisation, Community Development, or Both?

- **Research has characteristically focused on community-level practice**
  - **Literature focusing on macro-level structural organisation of communities and the link between the micro and macro levels is scarce**
- **BUT successful community-based interventions rely on the existence of macro-level community organisation**
- **AND community-based practice forms the link between the community and larger state-controlled responses to community needs**
- **AND forming a link between the 2 levels decreases macro-level biases towards technological, financial and material interventions (hard-issue bias)**
- **AND forming a link between the 2 levels makes space for community collaboration, empowerment and participation**

# Community-Based Development

- **Focus: behavioural and environmental change regarding safety behaviours**
- **Participating stakeholders: community members, government, policy makers and lobbyists**
- **There are a number of existing community-based development programmes aimed at injury prevention and safety promotion internationally**
  - **BUT few are specific to SA**
  - **AND evaluations of these interventions are limited and scarce**
  - **THEREFORE it is necessary to develop South African specific community development programmes and subject them to evaluations in order to assess their relevance, applicability and effect**
- **Factors that increase community development effectiveness:**
  - **A sustainable ethos which enables the community in question to accomplish long-term self reliance**
  - **Multi-agency collaborations**
  - **The implementation of local injury surveillance systems**
  - **Programmes that are tailored to the unique needs of a given community**

# Community-Based Development: Some Relevant Examples

## The Praxis Safety and Accountability Audit (Safety Audit)

- Created by Ellen Pence and her colleagues in 1998
- Social change foundation of the battered women's movement
- Coordinated community response to domestic violence
- Emphasis on ethnography: asking questions from the standpoint of people in their everyday lives
- Conducted by an interagency team of advocates and practitioners
- Uses interviews, observations and text analyses to examine the ways in which institutions produce interventions and outcomes that enhance or diminish safety for battered women and their children
  - The gap between what people experience and need and what institutions provide
- New, distinctive tool for community change
- Developed in Minneapolis but has been adapted to many different international communities
- This work has culminated in the publication of a community handbook, *Blueprint for Safety: An Interagency Response to Domestic Violence Crimes* (Pence & Eng, 2009).

# Community-Based Development: Some Relevant Examples

## Adolescent Alcohol Use and Vehicle Safety Interventions

- Newman (1992, Canada); Shope (1996, USA), Martinez (1996, USA)
- Target groups: Adolescents in grade 9, 10, 11, 12
- Intervention: High school-based educational curriculum
- Outcomes: Drinking and driving knowledge and safety behaviours
  - Reduced rate of riding with an intoxicated driver
  - Perceived ability to resist peer pressure
  - Change in alcohol consumption
  - Increased seatbelt use
- Would need to be adapted to SA context
  - Target older youth as well
  - Intervene at pedestrian level
  - Culture of drinking as an acceptable mode of social interaction
  - Best in combination with policy education (legal consequences)

# Community-Based Development: Some Relevant Examples

## The PARTNERS Youth Violence Prevention Programme

- Collaborative intervention between academic researchers and community leaders
  - Multi-institutional Philadelphia Collaborative Violence Prevention Centre: academics from The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Drexel University, Temple University, the University of Pennsylvania and the Philadelphia Area Research Community Coalition (PARCC) (also brings together 21 different communities)
- Aimed at promoting leadership and preventing violence amongst urban adolescents
- Employs a community-based participatory model that promotes community capacity and sustainability
- Strategies occurring over 5 phases:
  - Focus groups
  - Pilot testing
  - Conducting organisational assessments
  - Literature reviews
  - Community Symposiums
- Resonates with Ukuphepha agenda

# Community-Based Development: Some Relevant Examples

## Harstad prevention of burns in young children by community-based intervention

- **Setting:** The Norwegian city of Harstad, 6 surrounding municipalities and Trondheim
- **Passive and active interventions according to information based on a national injury surveillance system**
  - **Passive interventions:** Installation of cooker safeguards and lowering tap water thermostat settings in homes, schools and public contexts
  - **Active interventions:** Parental counseling by public health nurses, home assessments, media promotion of passive interventions and regular press releases on intervention progress
- **Results:** decreased burn injury rates, decreased burn severity, reduced burn admissions to hospitals (→ decreased national health costs)
- **Resonates with the NIMSS and Ukuphepha link**

# Community Organisation

- **Involves the development of housing, infrastructure, municipal services and roads as a means to reduce issues related to injury, violence and health**
- **Examples that have resulted in decreased violence:**
  - **Improvement in transport and housing facilities**
  - **Implementation of street lighting**
  - **The introduction of citizen security**
  - **The strengthening of social capital**

# Community Organisation: Some Relevant Examples

## Networks of Effective Action (NEA)

- **Holistic, integrated approach to peacebuilding that combines traditionally distinct social and governmental sectors**
- **Membership: representative sampling of actors from across the political, social and structural sectors as well as actors from the international, national, subnational and local levels**
- **Purpose: collaboratively build sustainable peace in a specific instance of conflict**
- **Principles: a commitment to diversity, information sharing, participative planning, non-duplication of effort and fostering integrated, multisectoral interventions**
- **Resonates with Ukuphepha's prerogative to stimulate a network of injury prevention & safety promotion service-based agencies that will both draw on & act as a resource to the development of skills linked to technological improvement & innovation, and contextual relevance**

# Community Organisation: Some Relevant Examples

## Childhood Community Safety Intervention

- **Sellstrom, Guldbradsson, Bremberg, Hjern & Arnoldsson (2003)**
- **25 municipalities in Stockholm County, Sweden**
- **Increased safety promotion measures in general municipal, preschool, school and leisure activities → decrease in rates of injury and hospital admissions**
  - **Integrate separate sectors (traffic, school, childcare) within each municipality**
  - **How municipalities organise their safety activities effect injury rates**
- **Would need to be replicated and made specific to SA context**

# Community Organisation: Some Relevant Examples

## Domestic Abuse Intervention Project (DAIP)

- Pence and McDonnell (1999)
- Minnesota, USA
- Target group: victims of domestic abuse (across age, race, class and **gender**)
- Aims: reduce cases of family violence and increase the safety of vulnerable citizens
- Streamlines and coordinates policy, processes, training and all documents used in violence prevention between police, courts, shelters and health agencies
  - Collaborative
  - Synchronises multiple sectors in violence prevention
- Resonates with Ukuphepha's prerogative to stimulate a network of injury prevention & safety promotion service-based agencies that will both draw on & act as a resource to the development of skills linked to technological improvement & innovation, and contextual relevance
  - Also resonates with Masculinity Project and Ukuphepha link
- Would need to be made more SA specific

# Community Organisation: Some Relevant Examples

## Community-Based Public Works Programmes in South Africa

- Embraces participatory and sustainable development through job creation, poverty reduction and infrastructure development
- Objectives:
  - 1) Create, rehabilitate and maintain physical assets that meet the needs of poor communities and promote economic activity
  - 2) Reduce unemployment through the creation of productive jobs
  - 3) Educate and train those on the programmes as a means of economic empowerment
  - 4) Build the capacity of communities to become self-sufficient by strengthening local government and community-based institutions as well as by generating sustainable economic development
- Although commendable and innovative, these programmes do not always reach the poorest of the poor → need to use mapping techniques and GIS to increase accessibility

# Challenges and Obstacles to Intervention Implementation

- **The paternalistic role of “development experts”**
  - Enter communities with pre-existing and often ‘fixed’ knowledge
  - Disempowers communities and creates dependency
- **The inhibiting and prescriptive role of the state**
  - Interventions often dependant on political interests
  - Maintenance of existing power relations
  - Funding limitations
- **Over-reporting of intervention successes**
  - Successes are more often documented than failures → no reporting of lessons learned to inform future research
- **Selective participation**
  - Development agencies engage exclusively with particular groups and community representatives
  - While this allows for long-term benefits, ongoing relationships and community accessibility, what about other communities and populations?
  - How will Ukuphepha negotiate this tension?

# Challenges and Obstacles to Intervention Implementation

- **Hard-issue bias**
  - Technological, financial, physical and material issues are often privileged over softer issues such as community participation, capacity development and empowerment despite the fact that inappropriate social processes may destroy the developmental progress of harder issues
- **Conflicting interest groups within communities**
  - Likely because interventions most often occur in marginalised communities that have to compete for limited and scarce resources
  - Prevents participation and collaboration
- **Excessive pressures for immediate results**
  - Issue relates to cost, time, funders' agendas and pressure for publication
  - Community intervention must be balanced with other academic/political/financial agendas in a way that does not compromise the intervention's success
- **How can the Ukuphepha Project utilise the recommendations put forward in this review whilst simultaneously negotiating tensions that may arise from these challenges and obstacles?**

*Thank you for your attention*

